

MR. EARL: My name is Taylor Earl. And I work for Skyline Mine, up by Resource Mine, located in Central Utah. I want to talk about whether or not Americans are receiving a fair return for Federal coal. But, first I want to start with wind and solar power. According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, or EIA, \$13.2 billion dollars in government subsidies were spent on wind and solar from 2010 to 2013. All of this, and wind and solar power still only accounts for less than 5 percent of America's total energy production. How is this a fair return for taxpayer's money? One the other hand, there's been nine and a half billion in revenue collected by the United States since 2016, from the Coal Leasing Program. It seems that solar and wind energy wouldn't exist if coal wasn't paying for a huge part of it. The Coal Leasing Program is more than fair. And coal mines benefit the communities they affect in an overwhelmingly positive way. But, that isn't really the issue here. Environmental groups and the government want to put coal mines out of business. And they know that by making leases almost impossible to get, and my increasing royalty rate, our already struggling industry could collapse. If they actually cared about the environment, they would see that coal has come further than any other energy producer in the America at reducing its CO emissions -- CO2 emissions. According to the EIA, the total U.S. CO2 emissions went down 504 million metric tons from 2006 to 2014. Clean coal technologies alone account for 86 percent of that reduction. A pretty impressive number considering coal- powered energy is only credited for 30 percent of our country's CO2 emissions. So, to say that again, coal powered energy accounts for only 30 percent of the country's CO2 emissions. [indiscernible] 86 percent of the [indiscernible] reduction. We already do way more than our fair share. Every major advancement that our country has had in